March 3, 2010- Judiciary Committee

H.J.No.6- Avoletta vs. State of CT. Dept. of Education

As the father of Peter and Matthew and husband of Joanne Avoletta I would like to have my statement read hoping it will not fall on deaf ears as has been the case for the last seven years.

Unfortunately I am unable to attend due to the fact I'm currently out of work home and recovering from major brain surgery, which was performed on 12-31-09 at Yale New Haven Hospital. We are now living on a reduced disability income.

Members of the Judiciary Committee, I respectfully ask you to keep in mind our only request was to be compensated for providing our children a safe school setting which the Torrington School District and State Board of Education failed to do. Since March 2003 my wife, Joanne, has been a champion advocate for our two sons. She has not only sacrificed her health from the stress this has caused but also her ability to work on any career goals she may have had in mind once our sons were grown. This has been and continues to be a full time job. I ask that the committee not take my word for it, but review the files on this case and you will see the reason my dining room and attic has stored boxes full of legal curve balls to stall, manipulate and disregard any attempts in resolving this matter.

I have painfully watched the effects that my sons have endured from being exposed to the poor indoor air quality of Torrington schools including the mold, dampness and poor ventilation issues that remain at those buildings.

In my opinion Torrington School District and the CT. State Department of Education have failed to provide my children with a free appropriate public education in a safe school setting. They however have managed to spend thousands of tax payer's dollars on attorneys to come up with ways to stall the process in the hopes we'll get tired of jumping through their hoops and go away. If ever a saying was appropriate to describe our case this is it. This has been, and continues to be, a "Travesty of Justice."

Peter P. Avoletta

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